

20021215.qrp v02\_n770.qrl.20021215

Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 19:03:11 EST  
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: QRP-L digest 2770

QRP-L Digest 2770

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [142198] The Best Paddles  
by "Peter Barnett" <pkbarnett@mail.arczip.com>
- 2) [142199] Re: Datak Basic VFO kit  
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 3) [142200] Re: ARRL 10 meter contest  
by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
- 4) [142201] AT today in PA  
by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
- 5) [142202] 2003 QRP Contest Calendar  
by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
- 6) [142203] Re: The Best Paddles  
by "Jim Stamper" <jstamper@shentel.net>
- 7) [142204] AT today in PA  
by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
- 8) [142205] Fwd: (OQRPWW 117) Deadline HOT-PARTY  
by dl6aaf@t-online.de (Uwe Meier)
- 9) [142206] QRP Quarterly magazine  
by Mark Milburn <mark.milburn@juno.com>
- 10) [142207] Radio Electronics Magazine  
by "brian" <brian@iquiest.net>
- 11) [142208] Alaska QRP Club Membership List updated - Numbers issued.  
by Jim Larsen - AL7FS <jimlarsen2002@alaska.net>
- 12) [142209] Paper Clip Straight Key  
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 13) [142210] Xmas and FRS Radios  
by wkhibbert@juno.com
- 14) [142211] Here is the Reason the Datak Basic VFO was pulled from the market  
by "K0FF" <K0FF@nemonet.com>
- 15) [142212] SWAP: Clean HQ-180 Receiver Manual for ???`  
by "William Phinzy" <k6whp@verizon.net>
- 16) [142213] Re: homebrew keys article  
by "K0FF" <K0FF@nemonet.com>
- 17) [142214] 10 meters lot's of static?  
by "Jess Gypin" <jessmx5@earthlink.net>

-----

Date: Sat, 14 Dec 2002 21:58:08 -0700  
From: "Peter Barnett" <pkbarnett@mail.arczip.com>  
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142198] The Best Paddles  
Message-ID: <200212142158.AA35717374@mail.arczip.com>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

O.K. so I am starting a religious war! I passed element 1 and 3.  
When I went to Ham Radio Outlet there were a lot of options for  
keys.

Since I am subscribed to the qrp list, low power has a lot of  
appeal. What is a good key, electronic keyer combination for  
someone who backpacks? We also trailer a lot where weight and  
space is not a problem. Is there a happy middle point or are two  
different keys the way to go?

Pete Barnett  
KD7TAK  
peter@pkbarnett.com

-----  
Date: Sat, 14 Dec 2002 19:19:20 -0500  
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [142199] Re: Datak Basic VFO kit  
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20021214191920.007bbe50@mailhost.ncia.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>Recently I built up one of the Datak Basic VFO's, having a need for a  
>signal source. The output is not a radio wave ( sine wave) but a digital  
>timer wave ( square wave). Naturally, there is no way to use something like  
>this as a signal source. Has anyone else had similar results.

I won't worry about the square waves. All oscillators have harmonic content  
and any amplifiers following them will enhance and contribute to them. One  
advantage a square wave output is it will have a consistant output level  
over the frequency range. Attenuate it down as required.

Any tuned circuits, low pass filters, ect, the signal might be feed into  
will round out the square wave anyway.

Although it's not real stable, (especially at the upper end of the range)  
the VCO section of a 74HC4046 makes a good wide range signal generator for  
HF. It's simple and inexpensive.

72,  
Steve, KD1JV  
"Melt Solder"  
White Mountains of New Hampshire  
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 06:52:17 -0500  
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>  
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142200] Re: ARRL 10 meter contest  
Message-ID: <002401c2a430\$6b5c6d00\$c3635cd1@wb3aal>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
                charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi,

Unfortunately my time this weekend does not permitt me to work the contest.

I did listen for a little while around 21:30 UTC. This is the time I usually call CQ on 15 or 10m.

There were a lot of signals to be heard, many were QRP also. The weird thing that I find is during the week or weekend, 10 m is dead around 21:30 UTC. No signals to be heard or no one comes back to my CQ.

Give 10 or 15m a try in the evenings when the sun is going down, you might be surprised who you will work. I worked a JA3 with 5 watts and a vertical the other week, about 1 hour after sunset.

72 & Good DX  
Ron de WB3AAL  
wb3aal@fast.net  
[www.n3epa.org](http://www.n3epa.org)

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 07:22:43 -0500  
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>  
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142201] AT today in PA

Message-ID: <003901c2a434\$abefa860\$c3635cd1@wb3aal>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello,

Well I am going out onto the AT today. I plan on hiking for a little while before I get on the air, but I will eventually wind up operating east of the Route 183. In this area the AT runs east / west. This is north of the Strausstown, PA which is located on I-78.

Going to start out on 20m around 14:00 to 14:30 UTC and then try 15m, 30m and 40m around 15:30 UTC. But if the higher bands are lousy I will wind up on 40m.

72 & Good DX  
Ron de WB3AAL  
wb3aal@fast.net  
www.n3epa.org

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 14:40:07 -0500  
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>  
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142202] 2003 QRP Contest Calendar  
Message-ID: <003301c2a471\$c66bf9e0\$c2e35cd1@wb3aal>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello,

Check out the 4th Annual QRP Contest Calendar for the QRP'er if you like to operate the QRP Contest.

This years theme is QRP Clubs with club calls. Each month will feature a different QRP clubs that has a club call.

Check out [www.n3epa.org](http://www.n3epa.org) and click on the link to the calendar.

72 & Good DX  
Ron de N3EPA

El Presidente'  
n3epa@fast.net  
www.n3epa.org

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 14:48:26 -0500  
From: "Jim Stamper" <jstamper@shentel.net>  
To: <pkbarnett@mail.arczip.com>,  
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [142203] Re: The Best Paddles  
Message-ID: <001101c2a472\$f1b652c0\$42396fcc@jim>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You might want to try the Finger Tip Tapper. I would have trouble using it for high speed, but it would be hard to find anything lighter.

jim-  
KG4LDY

----- Original Message -----  
From: "Peter Barnett" <pkbarnett@mail.arczip.com>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Sent: Saturday, December 14, 2002 11:58 PM  
Subject: The Best Paddles

> O.K. so I am starting a religious war! I passed element 1 and 3.  
> When I went to Ham Radio Outlet there were a lot of options for  
> keys.  
>  
> Since I am subscribed to the qrp list, low power has a lot of  
> appeal. What is a good key, electronic keyer combination for  
> someone who backpacks? We also trailer a lot where weight and  
> space is not a problem. Is there a happy middle point or are two  
> different keys the way to go?  
>  
> Pete Barnett  
> KD7TAK  
> peter@pkbarnett.com  
>

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 15:05:20 -0500  
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>  
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142204] AT today in PA  
Message-ID: <004701c2a475\$4c6c2580\$c2e35cd1@wb3aal>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello,

Well I got to the trail this morning and took a walk south on the AT from Rte. 183. Wow what a mistake, the trail was submerged in water. So I headed back to the north side of Rte. 183. It took me about 45 minutes to setup the station due to the 35' F temp, cloudy and windy weather that was up there.

I made my 1st CQ on 20m around 14:40 UTC. I finally made the following QSO's.

N1KSN	14:54 UTC	WI	20m	
K4MTN	15:09 UTC	NC	20m	
WB8W0J	15:30 UTC	OH	40m	
N3A0	15:48 UTC	PA	40m	My last QSO on the AT for 2002

I called CQ on 15m & 30m for several minutes, but I had no response on those bands.

My feet were very cold so I decided to leave after my QSO with N3A0. After I packed up I took a hike for a few miles north on the trail. Wow, there was a lot of trees down due to the ice storm we had and the hiking was treacherous.

I had a good trip, the next trip in Jan. 2003 I will be taking my tent along for shelter. I should be out longer that time around.

Thanks for all the QSO's during the 2002 year.

72 & Good DX  
Ron de WB3AAL  
wb3aal@fast.net  
www.n3epa.org

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 03:19:50 +0100 (MET)  
From: dl6aaf@t-online.de (Uwe Meier)  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [142205] Fwd: (OQRPWW 117) Deadline HOT-PARTY  
Message-ID: <200212150219.DAA00821@joringel.t-online.de>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

From: DJ7ST @ DB0ABZ.#NDS.DEU.EU (Hartmut)  
To: OQRPWW @ DB0ABZ.#NDS.DEU.EU  
X-Info: Einspielung ohne Passwortschutz

Hello,

if you did participate in the HOT-PARTY but did not yet send  
your log: please do it right now (by Packet Radio to DJ7ST@DB0ABZ)

73 es tks in advance

Hal, DJ7ST

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 06:47:33 -0600  
From: Mark Milburn <mark.milburn@juno.com>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [142206] QRP Quarterly magazine  
Message-ID: <20021215.064734.-1533913.0.MARK.MILBURN@juno.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sorry to harp on this again, but the mailing list for the QQ will have to  
be sent to the printer in a little over a week. If your subscription ran  
out with the October 2002 issue, you need to get that renewal in quickly  
if you want to receive the next issue.

72, Mark, KQ0I #2667  
Secretary-Treasurer QRP ARCI  
Instant Messenger: markkq0i  
email: qrp-parci@netzero.net  
-----

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 17:14:00 -0500  
From: "brian" <brian@iquest.net>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "Flying Pigs" <fpqrp-l@fpqrp.com>  
Subject: [142207] Radio Electronics Magazine  
Message-ID: <003e01c2a487\$45eee6e0\$6c612bd1@bmurrey2K>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

When I was a kid, a chronological kid, I used to subscribe to a magazine called "Radio Electronics".

I haven't seen it around in years and figured it was out of print now...BUT...does anyone know if you can get the issues on CD ROM?

=====  
KB9BVN/QRP - New Whiteland IN - EM69WN  
QRP-ARCI #10223 QRP-L #1540 FIST #5695  
FISTS CC #764 - Proud Member ARRL  
HEATH HW-9 @ 2W or NORCAL 40A @ 1.3W  
INTO INFAMOUS AF4PS ATTIC DIPOLE  
SOC #400 AND FLYING PIGS QRP #-57  
=====

-----  
Date: Sat, 14 Dec 2002 23:17:07 -0900  
From: Jim Larsen - AL7FS <jimlarsen2002@alaska.net>  
To: "qrp-l@lehigh.edu" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142208] Alaska QRP Club Membership List updated - Numbers issued.  
Message-ID: <3DFC3A83.1090404@alaska.net>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings from Alaska,

I have updated the membership list and issued member numbers. The form engine should now be cleared and working again.



<http://www.qsl.net/k17aqc/>

73, Jim

--

Jim Larsen, AL7FS

Anchorage, Alaska

<http://www.qsl.net/al7fs/>

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 18:16:38 -0500  
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [142209] Paper Clip Straight Key  
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20021215181638.007acba0@mailhost.ncia.net>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I was intrigued by the idea of the paper clip straight key someone mentioned here a few days ago. I was in my favorite discount store today, so bought a box of jumbo paper clips and some brass plated paper fasteners for contacts.

Took about 10 minutes to build, hooked it up to a rig and proceeded to have a QSO with it. Works pretty darn good, believe it or not! Check it out:

<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/paperclipsk.HTM>

(hope I got that right this time, hi)

72,

Steve, KD1JV

"Melt Solder"

White Mountains of New Hampshire

<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 18:22:20 -0500  
From: wkhibbert@juno.com  
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu  
Subject: [142210] Xmas and FRS Radios  
Message-ID: <20021215.182332.-392093.0.wkhibbert@juno.com>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yep, Christmas is coming, and all of the neighborhood ankle-biters will be trying their new FRS radios out come Christmas morning.

Some of them will get interested enough in the fact that they can talk to someone other than their families on the radios that they might be interested in hearing about amateur radio.

Set your scanner up & listen in. If you recognize any of your neighbors, it might be the time to give them a ham radio pitch. Who knows, you might find a kindred spirit out there.

BTW: FRS radios are QRP. Here's info on the radios and the channel assignments:

```
-----< frs_freqs.txt
>-----
```

FRS Frequencies:

No license is required. Radios have 1/2 watt output, a nonremovable antenna and operate with narrow band deviation ONLY.

CHANNEL	FREQUENCY
---------	-----------

01	462.5625 MHz
02	462.5875 MHz
03	462.6125 MHz
04	462.6375 MHz
05	462.6625 MHz
06	462.6875 MHz
07	462.7125 MHz
08	467.5625 MHz
09	467.5875 MHz
10	467.6125 MHz
11	467.6375 MHz
12	467.6625 MHz
13	467.6875 MHz
14	467.7125 MHz

Channels 1 - 7 are shared by GMRS frequencies.  
GMRS radios do require a license.

eof

73, Wm. Keith Hibbert, WB2VUO, TC/WNY ARRL Section  
President, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub

"My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!"

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Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 15:01:37 -0600  
From: "K0FF" <K0FF@nemonet.com>  
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142211] Here is the Reason the Datak Basic VFO was pulled from the market  
Message-ID: <004a01c2a47d\$29de58a0\$6ac249d8@pavilion>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
                charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Copy of email from Datak...Very nice people to deal with.  
Sorry if I stirred up a hornet's nest..Geo

----- Original Message -----  
From: <TheseusRob@cs.com>  
To: <K0FF@nemonet.com>  
Sent: Sunday, December 15, 2002 11:47 AM  
Subject: Re: vfo COPYof EMAIL #2

> George;  
>  
> Here is verbatim from our chief engineer re the VFO; he's the expert and poor  
> fellow is a bit embarrassed to be caught with this one. We had some serious  
> thoughts of world conquest with this little circuit; OK, maybe some good  
> sales.  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> The quick and easy answer here is to simply tell you to return the kit to  
> OceanState or wherever you purchased it and we will contact them to arrange a  
> full refund for you since we have pulled the kit off the market. In spite of  
> getting past our initial testing with the prototypes, production runs of

the

> LTC1799 chip do not provide satisfactory performance for this application and

> the manufacturer is unwilling or unable to do anything about it.

>

> The note does not sound like you expect for two reasons. First (and the one

> you can do something about) it is a square wave rather than a sine, which means the fundamental and all the harmonics are present. A low pass filter

> will turn this into a sine wave, which we presumed most builders would do before adding further amplification. At the very least there should be a low

> pass filter between the final amplifier stage and the antenna, which will accomplish the same thing.

>

> The problem that cannot be fixed originates within the IC and cannot be removed by filtering, mixing or any other reasonable means. The IC, just like a crystal, is not 100% accurate on every cycle. Unlike a crystal, the

> rate of change turns out to be about .4% of the output frequency - or 28KHz

> at 7MHz. Understand this 28K represents the "rate of change" and not magnitude or count of the actual error (if any) in the output frequency.

In

> effect it is not unlike constantly sweeping (FM) the carrier at 28K. The result is a noise band too wide to be acceptable for most applications in the

> 40 meter or 20 meter bands. Even with low pass filtering to turn the output

> from a square wave into a sine wave, this noise band will still make it sound

> funny.

>

> Below 5 MHz, pin 4 of LTC1799 can be lifted from the board and allowed to "float: with no connection to anything. Under these circumstances the output

> frequency will be divided by 10 (it is not divided when pin 4 is grounded as

> it is in this kit) but the noise band drops from .4% down to .013% of the output frequency. Where this works out to be 28K at 7MHz (.4%), when we go

> down to say 4MHz this noise band shrinks to 5200Hz which might or might not still be too wide. Unfortunately with this change in divide ratio the chip

> will not go up to 7MHz. The data sheet indicates in this mode it should only

> operate up to 3.3MHz. We have tried filtering, increasing/decreasing the

> voltage supply and other steps only to conclude this situation cannot be  
> corrected externally..  
>  
>  
>

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 15:41:54 -0800  
From: "William Phinizy" <k6whp@verizon.net>  
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>  
Subject: [142212] SWAP: Clean HQ-180 Receiver Manual for ???`  
Message-ID: <000f01c2a493\$8dc0b640\$8d61e043@k6whp>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
                charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

(I sent this last night but it didn't turn up on the server)

I turned up a really clean HQ-180 manual. It has no markings, inner pages are bright, schematics great, etc. Only the manual cover shows modest signs of age. Was going to e\*\*\* it but I figured someone on this list might want it.

Got anything to swap? Believe me, I am not looking for anything exorbitant; maybe you have an extra book of interest around the shack you might not need -- or sumpin like that.

72,

Bill, k6whp

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 13:51:27 -0600  
From: "K0FF" <K0FF@nemonet.com>  
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "Don" <dwittlic@APCI.net>  
Subject: [142213] Re: homebrew keys article  
Message-ID: <002c01c2a473\$5c3a15a0\$6ac249d8@pavilion>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
                charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

eHam having trouble with my pictures. I am putting the St.Louis Key

information on  
[www.qsl.net/K0FF](http://www.qsl.net/K0FF)

please bear with me until it gets loaded properly. There will be sections on  
Straight Keys, Iambic, Single lever paddles, and the Paddle Plug. Geo<K0FF

-----  
Date: Sun, 15 Dec 2002 09:49:03 -0700  
From: "Jess Gypin" <jessmx5@earthlink.net>  
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>  
Subject: [142214] 10 meters lot's of static?  
Message-ID: <007d01c2a459\$e0937540\$41365742@jgypin>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
          charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Is there a lot of atmospheric noise today?

Jess

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End of QRP-L Digest 2770

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